

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments and these remarks are in response to the Office Action dated January 27, 2006. This amendment is timely filed.

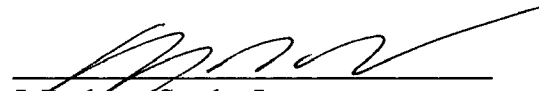
At the time of the Office Action, claims 1-6 were pending in the application. In the Office Action, claims 1-2 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Claims 3-4 and 6 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The allowable claims have duly been rewritten in independent form and are thus believed to be allowable. New claims 7-10 are added herein, which are equivalent to claims 2 and 5, but made dependent upon new independent claims 4 and 6.

II. Conclusion

Applicant has made every effort to present claims which distinguish over the prior art, and it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. Nevertheless, Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance. In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4-27-06


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